



Air Force releases several specialties from Stop-Loss

By Master Sgt. Dorothy Goepel
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials recently announced the release of several Air Force Specialty Codes from Stop-Loss, a Defense Department program designed to retain members of the armed forces beyond established dates of separation or retirement.

The announcement comes as a result of an Air Force 60-day review and applies to active duty, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard forces, according to Lt. Col. Jan Middleton, chief of promotion, evaluation and separation policy at the Pentagon.

“Our exit plan calls for a gradual draw-down from Stop-Loss, which means we want to continue to release AFSCs with each review as long as we are able to maintain sufficient forces to meet mission requirements,” she said.

Numerous officer and enlisted career fields are scheduled for release from stop-loss restrictions May 1.

During each cyclical review, Middleton explained, officials at the major commands, at the Air Staff and Secretariat, and at the Air Force Personnel Center review all AFSCs for possible release.

“We review current manning and authorizations, the number of people deployed for operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, the number of Air Reserve Center personnel mobilized, and overall health of the career fields,” Middleton said.

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson

Sign of the times

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, left, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, U.S. Congressman Ciro Rodriguez, Councilwoman Toni Moorehouse, and Bob Sanchez pose with the street sign that replaced the former 5th Street marker during a recent dedication ceremony at Brooks. The street was renamed in honor of the late Rev. Dr. Josue Sanchez, a prominent community leader who encouraged Brooks economic development and the City-Base Project. See related stories, Page 4.

Pharmaceutical lab opens at Brooks

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

A new wound and skin research laboratory that will contribute to southside economic development and help bolster San Antonio’s emerging biotechnology industry officially opened at Brooks April 8.

“This is one of the first partnerships we’ve entered into under Brooks City Base,” said Brooks executive director Dr. Brendan Godfrey about DFB Pharmaceuticals Inc., whose 2,000-square-foot laboratory is housed in the base’s Bldg. 125.

The ceremony marked the culmination of a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement signed in December 2000 between the 311th Human Systems Wing at Brooks and DFB Pharmaceuticals, whose subsidiaries include San Antonio-based DPT Laboratories, Ltd. and Fort Worth-based Healthpoint, Ltd.

DFB Pharmaceuticals employs 1,650 people, provides technology-driven products, outsourcing services and licensing opportunities to the healthcare industry through branded marketing organizations and contract partners.

Its annual sales last year exceeded \$162 million.

“In the past 10 years, DFB has become a leader in wound care through novel and effective treatments to complex wounds suffered by our aging society,” said H. Paul Dorman, DFB Pharmaceuticals chairman and chief executive officer.

He said his company was attracted to the collaborative venture with the Air Force because of the Armed Forces’ reputation as a world leader in clinical research and treatment of burns and wounds.

Specifically, the new lab will be involved in collaborative research with the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine’s Davis Hyperbaric Laboratory.

“Our company will be involved in two basic research initiatives (here): microbiology and cell culture. The skin contains a number of organisms that become pathogenic (causing disease) leading to severe infections and (skin) ulcers. We want to find out why normal bacteria become pathogenic,” said Dr. Braham Shroot, DFB Pharmaceuticals chief scientific officer.

According to DFB Pharmaceutical officials, the company is interested in expanding its knowledge of topical therapeutics and research for new pharmaceuticals that will provide

more effective skin and wound treatments.

DFB’s subsidiary Healthpoint, founded in 1992, is an industry leader in the research, development and marketing of branded pharmaceuticals, over-the-counter drugs and medical devices for tissue management, dermatology and infection prevention.

DFB’s other subsidiary, DPT Laboratories, was founded in 1938 in San Antonio as the Texas Pharmacal Company.

DPT employs 1,500 people, including more than 30 scientists. It is one of the healthcare industry’s largest research and development groups dedicated to semisolids and oral liquids.

DFB officials praised the support of USAFSAM’s Dr. John Kalns, contract scientist involved in aerospace medicine clinical investigations, and Dr. (Col.) James Wright and Dr. Larry Krock, USAFSAM chief scientist.

“I credit Dr. Krock and Dr. Wright for their groundbreaking CRDA work that served as the model for this partnership,” said Col. Tom Travis, USAFSAM commander.

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Happy 25th birthday Discovery

By. Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd

311th Human Systems Wing commander

So the Discovery is celebrating its 25th anniversary in the Air Force, eh. Ha! I beat that some time ago. The only difference is the Discovery just seems to be getting better and better, and I'm...getting more mature.

Wait, there is also the fact the Discovery and its contributors have won a trophy case full of awards and continue to bring home big league honors, and I'm...not so much.

Also, the Discovery regularly and frequently reaches out and touches nearly everyone on base and many in this community and others, and I'm...lucky to be in town ten days in a row.

Then there's the observation that the Discovery has a format and style that is up to

the minute, enabled by the latest technologies and concepts, powered by some of the best brains in the business, and I'm...getting more mature.

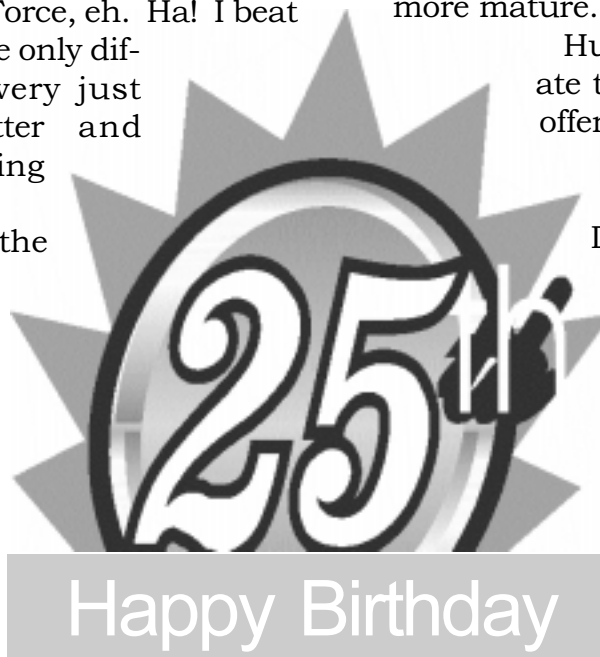
Hum. I think the appropriate thing for me to do now is offer my sincere congratulations and appreciation to the excellent staff of the Discovery-now and in the past—who have made our paper such a stand-out in the field and have done such a consistently superb job of keeping us informed.

Having been on a lot of other bases, I'm constantly delighted by the high quality and professionalism we are

blessed with in our editorial and reporting staff.

We all owe you a lot.

Happy birthday, Discovery!



25 years of history written

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The ancient proverb "success has many fathers, failure is an orphan" aptly applies to the fortunes of Brooks newspaper as it marks its silver anniversary on Sunday. During the past 25 years the Discovery's success has been directly attributable to the collective efforts of many people who worked to make this Air Force publication both interesting and informative. While it has sometimes been 'orphaned' by mistakes of omission or commission, it has never failed to communicate useful information to the Brooks community.

Its journey as a military periodical began with the publication of the first issue on April 21, 1977. The newspaper, an Air Force-funded publication with no advertisement, was initially produced bi-weekly under the direction of the Aerospace Medical Division Office of Information.

No base newspaper existed prior to the Discovery's inception. Two previous publications served limited audiences. "The Astro Medic was an official eight-page newspaper with no ads. It served the Air Force Systems Command readership," said former Astro Medic editor Paul LaRoche.

When the Astro Medic folded in 1973, it was replaced by a newsletter that provided limited information to the base population for four years. C.B. Perdue and Maj. Sam Giamo, former Brooks AFB Public Affairs directors, were responsible for leading the crusade to establish a base newspaper.

"Several efforts were made to get the newspaper started. They (base leadership) wanted it first to be a commercial enterprise weekly paper with ads. We didn't have the staff to produce a paper every week. We then decided to go the Air Force-funded route, initially having it printed by GPO (Government Printing Office)," Perdue recalls.

Once the format was established, a base-wide

contest was held to name the paper. Unfortunately, no record exists that identifies the person who submitted the winning entry. However, clues for the name selection is contained in a story in the newspaper's first edition. The story noted, "Everyone on Brooks AFB will be able to 'discover' what goes on in the various divisions. Secondly, the term 'discovery' is representative of the missions of the major Air Force Systems Command units located on base."

The Discovery's first of 21 editors was Kay Frolich, a former Army civil servant with limited newspaper experience. The paper was originally printed on semi-metro size pages similar to what the San Antonio Express-News use to have before it changed its format a few years ago.

The first major change to the newspaper's format occurred with the July 9, 1993 edition when Discovery became a magazine-style tabloid. Having abandoned newsprint altogether, the new-look format was bolstered by the high quality of the white 50-50 offset paper it was printed on. Discovery eventually established itself as a perennial first-place winner of the Air Force Materiel Command media contest in the funded-newspaper category.

Former Discovery editor Doug Karas was responsible for another significant development in the newspaper's evolution. In 1997, the Brooks paper went 'on-line' for the first time. Since then, the newspaper's Internet availability has given the publication worldwide exposure and has attracted the interest of military and business leaders and civilian scientists and researchers.

Its conversion to a commercial enterprise newspaper with ads and spot color occurred on Oct. 9, 1998 through the efforts of former Discovery editor Steve VanWert. The format was drastically changed from tabloid to its current design. However, it was printed on high-quality white paper until it converted to newsprint on March 10, 2000.

The *Discovery* is online.

Go to <http://www.brooks.af.mil/HSW/PA/discovery>.



Stop loss

Continued from Page 1

“We will conduct subsequent reviews every 60 days to allow individuals some stability and allow our requirements to solidify,” she said.

Members who are deployed in support of operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, or related operations, and Reserve and Guard components who are voluntarily or involuntarily on active duty in support of these operations or related operations, will not be released until they return from deployment or are demobilized, officials said.

Officials emphasized that Stop-Loss is devised to meet all operational requirements in addition to Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom. For instance, they point out, the Armed Forces will continue to conduct operations in Southwest Asia.

Some military members have the misperception that Stop-Loss is being used as a manning tool, Middleton said.

“Though it’s easy to make that assumption,” Middleton said, “it is absolutely not true. Manning is certainly one of the factors taken into consideration, but it is looked at in terms of what is needed to meet current mission requirements.”

Stop-Loss does not mean that service members are prohibited from retiring, separating or being discharged. A waiver of stop-loss status may be granted based on specific circumstances, officials said.

“We really want to do right by our service members,” Middleton said. “Many families had to put their plans on hold when Stop-Loss was implemented. We are grateful for their service and their sacrifices. We are trying to balance their needs with our commitment to operational requirements.

“The career fields that we have recommended for release from Stop-Loss are still subject to world events. If world events change significantly, we will have to re-evaluate our decisions.”

Commander recognizes new group with base’s top award

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, recently recognized the value of a new organization created to help senior leaders at Brooks when he presented the 311th Human Systems Wing Commander’s Award to the Corporate Council Working Group.

The CCWG is the youngest organization in base history to earn Brooks top honor.

It was established days before the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks as a prioritizing body that makes recommendations to the 311th HSW Corporate Council concerning the allocation of competing Wing resources.

“The mission of the group is to provide substantive background information on issues to the Corporate Council,” said CCWG member Dr. Larry Krock, U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine chief scientist.

Krock said the essence of the group is to foster enhanced communications between various organizations and activities on base that leads to collaborative interaction.

“The ink was barely dry on the CCWG charter when the Sept. 11 attacks and their consequences began to have a significant impact on our work here. Our work has focused over the last four months on what Brooks Air Force Base can contribute to the nation in this time of crisis,” said

Dr. Rodger Vanderbeek, a CCWG member and the 311th HSW Plans and Programs director.

Among CCWG initiatives has been an assessment of Brooks’ capabilities that can be used to support America’s homeland security efforts.

Vanderbeek explained, “The group has taken the initiative to produce several products that will help Brooks direct its considerable talents to the pressing needs of the nation. These products include a white paper chronicling the chemical and biological defense capabilities at Brooks, a funding matrix listing the contributions we can make to homeland security if given additional resources, and a scripted briefing that tells the story of what Brooks does and can do for homeland security and chemical/biological defense.”

Besides Vanderbeek and Krock, Corporate Council Working Group members include Col. Michael Farrell, USAFSAM; Col. Sherrell Russell, Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis; Col. Samuel Garcia, Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence; Vern Jauer, 311th Human Systems Program Office; Col. Calvin Williams, Lt. Col. Theresa Schultz, Lt. Col. Dwight Chase, Maj. Steve Whitney and Bertha Haass, 311th HSW Plans and Programs; Lt. Col. Tom Berg, Air Force Research Laboratory; Cynthia Sanders, 311th HSW Contracting Office and Lt. Col. Carla Walgenbach, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

Air Force Academy cadets visit Brooks for first time

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Future Air Force leaders are today getting a glimpse of the future of aerospace medicine and human systems warfighter support as 64 U.S. Air Force Academy cadets tour Brooks for the first time.

Their April 19 visit is historic in that Air Force Academy cadets have not previously toured the Air Force’s center for aerospace medical education and human systems research.

“This is the first time we’ve done this,” said Capt. Imelda Catalasan, 311th Human Systems Wing commander’s executive officer.

She said the base traditionally supports the Air Force ROTC Sponsorship Program.

Historically, Academy cadets visit Lackland Air Force Base, their primary sponsor, every two years through the Squadron Sponsorship Program, Catalasan explained.

The Brooks Company Grade Officers Council is providing escorts for the

cadets who are touring several venues.

Following a 311th HSW Wing mission overview by Lt. Col. Stuart Cowles, vice commander, the cadets will learn about Air Force Research Laboratory acceleration research and training at the centrifuge, and hyperbaric medical treatment and research conducted by the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine.

The tour also includes a visit to the 311th Human Systems Program Office’s Life Sciences Equipment Labo-

ratory to learn about forensic science applications used in aircraft crash site artifact identification.

Finally, a stop at the Air Force Insititute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis concludes their tour, and leaves the cadets with a better understanding of the capabilities of the Air Force Radiological Assessment Team.

Several Brooks families housed some of the cadets during their stay to help relieve the billeting overflow at Lackland AFB.



Southside leader honored with Brooks street sign

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

A legendary southside community leader, whose advice to his son led to the development of one of Brooks greatest supporters, was posthumously rewarded April 8 with a street sign named in his honor.

The late Dr. Josue Sanchez became the first non-federal government individual in Brooks history to have a street named after him during a ceremony presided by Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander.

"City Base provided us with an opportunity to rename 29 streets across the base. We looked for various names from our heritage. We limited it to those who made great contributions in our history, from military commanders and aviators to aerospace medicine heroes," Dodd told the ceremony audience that included U.S. Congressman Ciro Rodriguez, District 3 City Councilwoman Toni Moorhouse and Brooks long-time friend and supporter Bob Sanchez, chairman of Frontline Systems Inc.

Dodd said, "We made one exception. He was not a great military leader or a scientist. However, Dr. Sanchez was a great leader of men in the realm of God." Referring to the late minister's contributions to church history and the street's close proximity to the Brooks Chapel, Dodd added, "It is entirely appropriate that we re-name this

street after him because of its location."

Formerly known as 5th Street, the street now named in honor of the former Superintendent of the Latin American District of the Assemblies of God Church, is the second longest at Brooks. With the base scheduled to be officially transferred to the city of San Antonio in June, Brooks streets that duplicated others in the Bexar County metropolitan area had to be changed to accommodate services provided by police and fire departments, emergency personnel, the U.S. Postal Service and City Public Service.

Bob Sanchez credits his father for the former's involvement in Brooks economic development, through joint public-private partnerships, that has contributed to the creation of the national model called City Base.

"He was like a quarterback, always looking for receivers (targets of opportunity) and not concerned with line-men (obstacles)," Sanchez said.

Sanchez, who in 1996-97 was chairman of the South San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, had been devoting his energies to economically developing Kelly Air Force Base in the wake of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission's decision to close that base.

"Dad had read an article in the Express-News about Kelly Small Business Industry Day, then looked at me and said, 'What about Brooks?'," recalls Sanchez. The elder Sanchez, who had

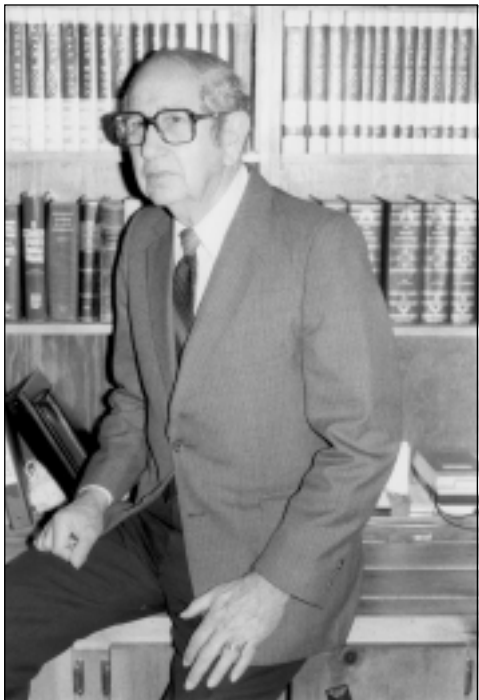
visited the base, envisioned the economic possibilities of Brooks as a southside neighbor with enormous potential for growth.

The younger Sanchez heeded his father's advice. He eventually became chairman of the Mayor's Brooks Opportunity Task Force that later led to his chairmanship of the Brooks Advisory Board, predecessor of the Brooks Development Authority.

Demonstrating many of the same qualities that endeared his father among admirers throughout Texas, Sanchez has been steadfast in his commitment to promoting City Base.

The senior Sanchez's community service, emulated by his son, was built over a career that spanned four decades. He was responsible for starting more than 300 churches, designed more than 150 churches and built more than 60 churches throughout the United States. "Dad was God's architect. He designed, built and financed churches in low income areas," his son said. The elder Sanchez was also known for his tireless work on behalf of the civil rights movement.

The senior Sanchez earned a doctor of divinity degree from La Puente Bible College, authored several books, served as an editor for two magazines, was a popular lecturer and pastored two San Antonio churches and one in El Paso. He was also deeply devoted to his family that began with his marriage to wife Raquel in 1932. They became parents of 11 children.



Sanchez

"My mother, who is nearly 90, couldn't attend the ceremony (at Brooks) because she is in the hospital recovering from pneumonia," Sanchez said, noting that she is happy that her husband has been recognized for his contributions to the community.

"The one word that best describes my dad is that he was steadfast," Sanchez said of his father who 'never quit.'

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Street sign changes part of Brooks historic past

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

The recently changed Brooks street signs not only reflect "the signs of the times" as leaders here prepare for transition to City Base in June, but are historically appropriate in continuing to showcase the base's rich heritage.

Before blue and white city street signs started popping up all over the base about a month ago, extensive coordination had to be made with various stakeholders to determine which signs stayed and what new signs were to be erected as replacements.

"Most of the ones that were duplicates in the city of San Antonio had to be changed," said Manny Villarreal, Brooks Development Office Logistics manager. Duplications were researched within Bexar County and three surrounding counties serviced by 911. Villarreal said sign changes were needed to ensure there was no delay or interruption in fire and EMS service.

Among the duplicates that had to be changed were all of the base's numbered streets, those with letters such as 'A Drive,' streets that featured compass points such as north and south, and a few named after World War II aviation legends including Generals Hap Arnold and Jimmy Doolittle.

The U.S. Postal Service, Bexar



Pratt
"The Father of Brooks Field"

Metro 911, City Public Service and San Antonio Police Department had to agree to street sign change recommendations before final approval was made by Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander.

Some of these agencies enforced street sign restrictions, such as no name can be longer than 14 characters. Otherwise 911's database becomes truncated (names are cut off), increasing the chance of 911 dispatcher error.

A few old Brooks street names, duplicated elsewhere, were allowed to remain when the abbreviated form of uncommon suffixes were used.

Hence, Lindbergh Drive, named in honor of 1924 Brooks flying ca-

det and aviation legend Charles Lindbergh, sports the new moniker 'Lindbergh Lndg' (Landing). Likewise Chennault Road, named for World War II "Flying Tigers" commander and former Brooks Field instructor Lt. Gen. Claire Chennault, was changed to 'Chennault Path.'

The only major exception was made for Kennedy Circle, named to commemorate President John F. Kennedy's 1963 visit to Brooks the day before he was assassinated.

Of the 56 named streets at Brooks, 29 have been changed. The Brooks Development Office made several name change recommendations to Dodd.

Several proposed names didn't make the final cut, such as the recommendation to change North Road (the key traffic artery starting at the main gate) to City Base Drive. The road is now called Sidney Brooks in honor of the base's namesake.

However, some BDO recommendations prevailed, such as the circular 'D Drive' loop around the Fam Camp becoming Fam Camp Road and 9th Street, which runs past the Challenger Learning Center, dubbed 'Challenger Drive.'

All of the name changes have historical significance and primarily honor American military commanders, aviation legends and scientists.

Fittingly, Lyster Road along the old flight line in front of the Tri-Service Directed Energy Bioeffects compound, is named after Lt. Col. Theodore Lyster, first military flight surgeon and 'Father of American Aviation Medicine.'

Within the Tri-Service compound is the newly named 'Reliance Loop,' honoring the Tri-Service research group called "Project Reliance."

Among new signs that honor Brooks leaders is 'Dave Erwin,' honoring the late scientist and director of the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis; Roadman Rd., named after Gen. Charles Roadman who was Aerospace Medical Division commander here and later the Air Force Surgeon General; Bedwell Rd. that honors Maj. Gen. Theodore Bedwell Jr. who was the first U.S. Air Force Aerospace Medical Center commander; McIver Rd. named in honor of former Brooks commander Maj. Gen. Robert McIver; and the former 'C Drive' renamed after Lt. Gen. George Schafer, former Air Force Surgeon General.

Two former 311th HSW commanders now have streets named after them. Perimeter Rd. was renamed after Brig. Gen. John Jernigan, and a one-way service



road leading into the picnic pavilion area is called 'Belihar Lane,' honoring Brig. Gen. Robert Belihar.

New street signs also bear names honoring groups, technology and medicine.

A runway and ramp are now called Aviation Landing and Tuskegee Rd., respectively; 13th Street is now Aeromedical Rd., Doolittle Rd. has been re-christened 'Flight Nurse,' 14th Street near the Health & Wellness Center is now 'Laser Road,' and a minor thoroughfare leading to Civil Engineer's plant operations and the hyperbaric and altitude chambers is called 'Chambers Parkway.'

Among some old brown and white street signs that remain unchanged are Gillingham Drive, memorialized for the late Dr. Kent



Signs

Continued from Page 4

Gillingham, a Brooks scientific legend who pioneered spatial dis-orientation research; and Ocker Road named after aviation pioneer Col. William Ocker who became the “Father of Instrument Flying” for his Brooks Field innovations.

All of family housing’s street signs remain unchanged. They feature primarily former Brooks Field leaders including the base’s first commander Maj. Henry Pratt, and its subsequent commanders Maj. John Thornell and John Paeglow, Lt. Col. Henry B. Claggett, and Maj. Gen. Ralph Royce and James E. Chaney.

Mendoza, Skaggs and Vinsant Streets are named in honor of three individuals who were killed in the line of duty. Capt. Ray H. Skaggs, who graduated from Baylor College of Medicine in 1921 and the Army Medical School in 1926, was killed in an aircraft accident in March 1938. Capt. Joseph W.



Vinsant

Mendoza was the first flight surgeon to die as a result of enemy action over Newfoundland in January 1943.

The diminutive Wilma (Dolly) Vinsant was one of the first air evacuation flight nurses to be killed during a mission.

She died April 13, 1945.

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April Enlisted Promotions

The following enlisted personnel will put on new stripes in April.

To Master Sergeant:

Timothy Ferrell

U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine

To Technical Sergeant:

Alvin Johnson

USAFSAM

To Staff Sergeant:

Melissa Brace

311th Air Base Group

Courtney Edwards

311th Communication Squadron

Reginald Frazier

311 ABG

Bridgette Hopkins

Air Force Research Laboratory

Sherry Purdy

Air Force Institute for Environment,

Safety and Occupational

Health Risk Analysis

Marylou Novak

68th Informaiton Operations Squadron

To Senior Airman:

Shane Burke

68th IOS

Junell Dumes

311th Security Forces Squadron

LeJoyce Harvey

311th Medical Squadron

Maggie Johnston

68th IOS

Matthew Powell

311 CS

To Airman 1st Class:

Diane Hoffman

311 MDS

To Airman:

Monica Anctil

USAFSAM

Bradley Buening

311 MDS

Isaac Gonzales

311 CS

Melissa Harwell

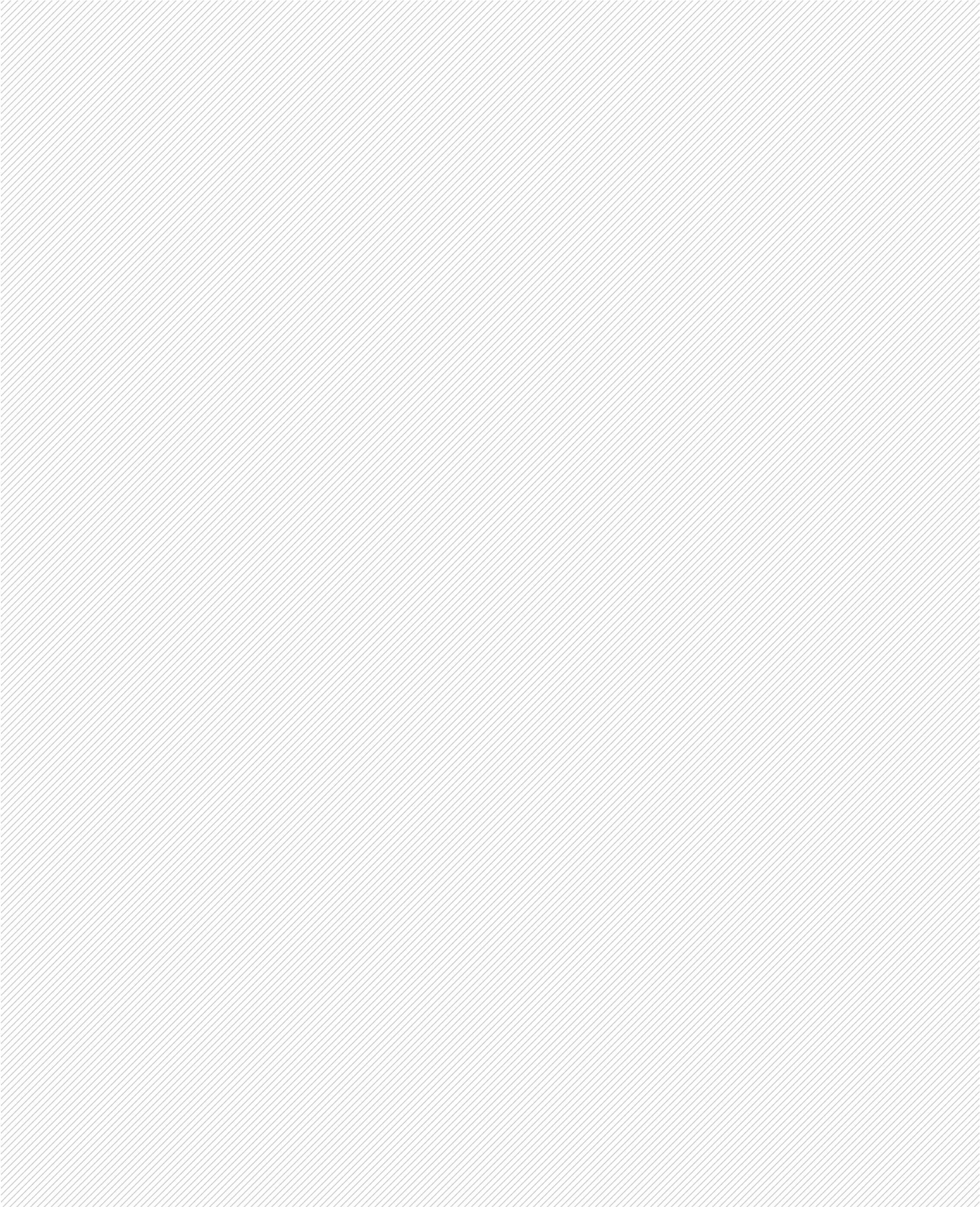
311 CS

Sean Polanowski

311 CS

Megan Reid

311 CS





ACTION LINE

536-2222



Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd
311th Human Systems
Wing commander

The **COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE** is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the **COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222.**

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:

311th Security Forces Squadron.....	536-3310
SFS after duty hours.....	536-2851
311th Civil Engineer Squadron.....	536-3861
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571
311th Air Base Group Logistics Division.....	536-3541
Safety.....	536-2111
Housing Maintenance.....	536-7000
Housing Office.....	536-1840
311th Services Division.....	536-2545
311th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715
Military Personnel.....	536-1845
Civilian Personnel.....	536-3353
Military Pay.....	536-1851
Civilian Pay.....	536-2823
I.G. (FWA).....	536-2358
Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
Base Exchange.....	533-9161
Commissary.....	536-3549
Brooks City Base Project Office.....	536-6626



Brooks Family Support Center activities

Call 536-2444 for information

Investing for your future

11 a.m. - 1 p.m., May 1, Bldg. 537 —

The kind of future you and your family will have depends on the decisions you make today. The future will not take care of itself....you must. Make the right decision by attending this investment workshop.

3-day transition seminar

8 a.m. - 4 p.m., May 21-23, Bldg. 537—

Making the transition from the military to the civilian sector can be a big undertaking. This seminar allows us to better serve those separating and retiring members and their spouses.

Topics include job search preparation, resume writing, interviewing skills including appropriate dress, veteran's benefits, and much more. All members should attend at least 180 days prior to separation or retirement.

For information on any of the classes, call the Family Support Center at 536-2444.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson

Certificate of achievement

Zita Bain, wife of Staff Sgt. Christopher Bain, 68th Information Operations Squadron, receives her child care license from Col. Terry Nelsen, 311th Air Base Group commander, right. Family Child Care providers offer care for military and Department of Defense dependent children and enjoy the convenience of working at home. Providers receive training in CPR, First Aid, rescue breathing, record keeping and child development. Contact the Brooks Family Child Care Office at 536-2041 for more information on becoming a child care provider.



Ambassadors, military honor Fiesta traditions



Photo by Staff Sgt. John Jung

Brooks 2002 Fiesta Ambassadors, Staff Sgt. Ty Richards and 1st Lt. Josie Morrow, participate in a pre-Fiesta celebration with Gloria Vela, left, and Deidre Williams, far right, members of the Urban 15 Dance Group, during a recent Fiesta San Antonio kickoff media event.

By Rita Boland

Discovery Staff Writer

It's a combination of Memorial Day, Veteran's Day and Mardi Gras. It generates \$220 million for the city of San Antonio. It's attended by 3.5 million people.

It's Fiesta! And it begins today.

Fiesta San Antonio began 111 years ago. The Battle of Flowers Association, a women's organization, wanted to hold a parade to honor the heroes of the battles of the Alamo and San Jacinto. They organized a parade fit for President Harrison to attend, but he cancelled at the last minute.

Despite the loss of the guest of honor and four days of rain that postponed the display, the ladies held the first Battle of the Flowers parade in which they threw flower blossoms at one another in horse-drawn carriages.

The 10-day festival now has events that honor everyone who protects America's freedom, a concept that has renewed meaning in the past several months.

Representatives from Brooks will attend at least a third of the Fiesta activities this year, including the Texas Cavalier's River Parade.

First Lt. Josie Morrow and Staff Sgt. Ty Richards, the 2002 Brooks Fiesta Ambassadors, will be joined on this year's float by the 2001 Brooks Fiesta Ambassadors Rita Fox and Tech. Sgt. Mike Ryan. The parade was canceled last year due to rain.

Morrow and Richards will also represent Brooks in the Battle of Flowers parade and the Fiesta Flambeau Parade, the "longest illuminated parade in America." All participants are required to wear something that lights up or glows.

"Some of our senior leadership and Brooks Ambassadors will attend more than 50 events during the 10 days," Ed Shannon said. Shannon, the Com-

munity Relations specialist in the 311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs Office, is in charge of coordinating the Brooks activities for Fiesta.

One of those 50 events is the somber Pilgrimage to the Alamo Monday. Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th HSW commander, Lt. Col. Stuart Cowles, wing vice commander, Command Chief Master Sgt. Darlin Evans and the 2002 Ambassadors will participate in the wreath-bearing procession from Auditorium Circle to the Alamo downtown.

The silent parade ends when the members of the procession have placed their wreaths on the grounds outside the Alamo. Military members in the ceremony step back from their wreaths and render a salute as a voice from inside the Alamo recites the names of those who died in the battle.

Other events honoring military heroes include the Air Force at the Alamo. This event features performances by the Lackland Drum and Bugle Corps and 341st Training Squadron Military Working Dogs.

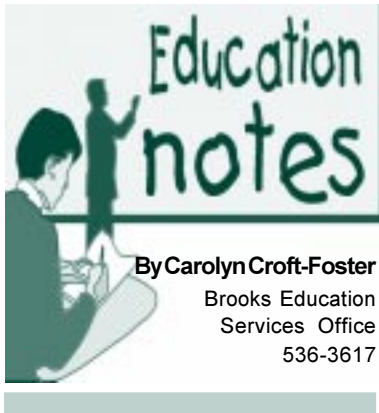
More than 1,000 military members will participate in the Lackland Fiesta Military Parade at the Lackland Parade Grounds from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. April 24. Civilians and military personnel can watch troops pass in review.

Fort Sam Houston gets in on the Fiesta action with a Fiesta Ceremony and Fireworks Extravaganza. The U.S. Army Drill Team and Fife and Drum Corps are among those scheduled to perform. The event will resemble a country fair with military displays, games and food booths. The activities will be set up on McArthur Field from 1 to 9 p.m. April 21.

The above events are free and open to the public.

For a complete list of Fiesta activities, including prices and descriptions of the festivities, visit the Fiesta website at: www.fiesta-sa.org.

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil



Maymester

Alamo Community College District will offer Maymester this year. The accelerated courses are scheduled from May 13 through May 31.

For more information, visit with the ACCD representative Tuesdays at the Education Center. To schedule an appointment, call 536-3617.

Summer class registration

Palo Alto College On-Base classes begin June 3 and end July 9. The courses at Brooks include: Speech, Literature, and Sociology. All on-base courses are applicable to the Community College of the Air Force as general education courses. For information about registration or to schedule an appointment, please call 536-3617.

Excelsior College essay exams

Students wishing to take the Excelsior College essay exam June 7 need to request their exam by May 3.

Regular CLEP and DANTES testing is available every Friday at 8 a.m. by appointment only.

Call 536-3617 to reserve a seat or order an exam.

Webster University

Webster University offers master's-level courses at Brooks this summer. Classes begin May 25 and end July 26.

The courses include: Procurement and Acquisition Management, Integrated Studies, Counseling Learning Practicum, Psychopathology, and Organizational Development.

For more information or to schedule an appointment with the Webster representative, Joyce Peavy, call 536-3617.

Appointments will be scheduled for Wednesday mornings at Brooks.

Officer Training School

Enlisted members who have completed a bachelor's degree or are within 270 days of completion are eligible to

apply to OTS. Application deadlines are May 7 and June 18.

For more information, or to schedule a commissioning appointment call 536-3617.

Six CLEP exams retire

The College Board is retiring six CLEP Subject paper-based tests in fiscal year 2002.

The exams that will retire July 1 are: American Government, College Algebra and Trigonometry, Human Growth and Development, Marketing, Sociology and Trigonometry.

CLEP testing is administered on Fridays in Bldg. 558, testing room.

For more information or to reserve a seat, call 536-3617.

VA benefits

Personnel who would like information on Veterans Administration benefits or would like to talk to an education case manager about VA education may call the Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office at 1-888-442-4551 or visit their website at: www.va.gov/education.

VA information is also available on the Brooks home page and at the customer service desk at the Brooks Education and Training Flight located in Bldg. 558.

Checklist of wisdom to help pass any inspection

Editor's note: This checklist comes from a 20-year-old TIG Brief written by Lt. Col. Sutherlen of what was the Air Force Inspection and Safety Center. It has been updated by Maj. Edgar Castor, director of the Air Force Inspector's Course.

With preparation, any unit can weather just about any inspection storm. The following guidelines can help units prepare for a visit from the inspector general.

- Know your pass/fail criteria. Concentrate on critical areas, then polish up the rest.
- Keep your priorities straight. Use the inspection criteria to do a self-inspection of every area that the IG evaluates.
- Establish and use a self-inspection system. The expertise already exists within your unit. Give yourself an honest look.
- Get out from behind the desk and talk to the troops. Commanders and supervisors are rated on how well the troops get the mission done.
- Understand the IG. They are only human. Most want the unit to do well.
- You may not see eye-to-eye but most issues can be resolved in your favor if you provide documentation to show your side.

- Be honest. Don't hedge or lie. If there's a problem, admit it and show how you plan to resolve it. (Do this in writing and at the earliest opportunity).
- Don't hover. Show interest and be available when the inspector asks, but give the inspector free rein in your area.
- Allow the troops to shine. If they look good, so will you.
- Put your best foot forward. Show the best you have. If you have a major problem, be upfront about it too, but show strides you've made to correct it. Have evidence of efforts to resolve the problem.
- Agree to disagree. If a problem can't be resolved at your and the inspector's level, keep it professional. The disagreement will be bumped up the chain of command. Have documentation that's understandable and forward it up; the inspector will do the same thing from his viewpoint.
- There are two views of an inspection: a chance to shine or an opportunity to fail. View plays a big part in how you are perceived. Approach the inspection as a chance to shine, it may color the inspection in your favor. Viewing an inspection as an opportunity to fail can also affect your rating.



NEWS briefs

Foundation scholarships

The Brooks Heritage Foundation is accepting applications for its 2002 Scholarships.

This year the Foundation is offering the \$1,000 P.D. Straw Scholarship and two \$250 student aide scholarships.

Eligibility requirements are described in the application, which are available at the Brooks Heritage Foundation office in Bldg. 659, adjacent to Hangar 9. Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

For more information contact the Foundation at 531-9767.

Volunteers needed

The Brooks Clinic is looking for a few good volunteers. Volunteers are needed for the reception desk.

Knowledge of medical records, computers and experience in customer service is a plus but not a requirement. Training is available.

The reception desk responsibilities include greeting patients, scheduling appointments, pulling medical records, checking in patients for appointments, including paperwork preparation, answering phones and directing calls, smiling, and enjoying the experience.

Call Capt. Rebekah Friday at 536-6984 or Tech. Sgt. Flores at 536-8533 for information.

Special Emphasis

In an effort to promote and emphasize diversity and multiculturalism in the Brooks community, the 311th Human Systems Wing commander has established a committee to assist with planning annual special observances.

Volunteers are needed to chair the 2002 committees for the following special observances: Asian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month (May), Hispanic Heritage Month (September) and Native American Heritage Month in November.

Committee members may also volunteer to serve as chairperson for a particular month. Each chairperson is responsible for the committees planning and the execution of events for their special observance month.

Participation is open to all civilian and military volunteers regardless of race, color, sex, religion or national origin.

Contact Capt. Sonya Ferreira or Master Sgt. Michael Parise at 536-2584 for details.

Altitude test subjects

Scientists at Brooks need a number of volunteer subjects to participate in hypobaric (altitude) chamber research projects.

Air Force aircrew members who are interested and meet the qualifications will earn approximately

\$150 per month for participating in one session per month.

Volunteers must meet Air Force body fat, height/weight standards, be a non-smoker for at least two years, be between 20-45 years old, and able to pass an appropriate physical exam.

Contact Jim Carlile at 536-3546 or Heather Alexander at 536-3440 for more information.

Promotion ceremony

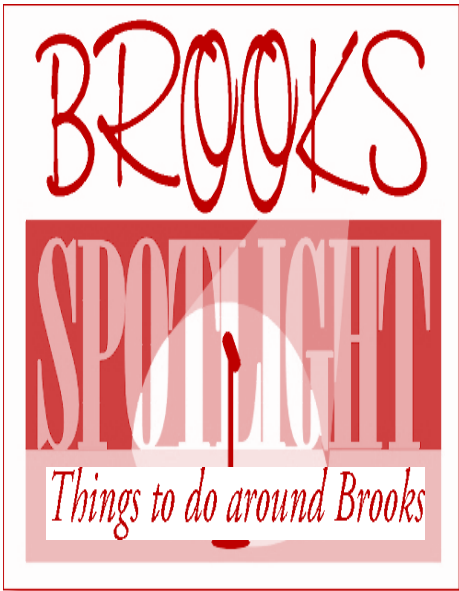
The next Brooks enlisted promotion ceremony is scheduled for 3 p.m., April 30, in the Brooks Club, Bldg. 204.

Everyone is invited to attend and support those members being promoted to their next grade.

Fiesta TechNet

Fiesta TechNet, formerly called Fiesta Informacion, is scheduled for April 22-24 at the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center downtown. The professional development conferences are sponsored by local chapters of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association. Members of the Brooks community can view exhibits, sit in on panel discussions, and hear keynote speakers free of charge, but advance registration is required.

To register, visit the website at: www.afcea.org/fiesta2002, or contact Maj. Tim Hartje at 536-6571.



By Jan McMahon
Brooks Services Marketing Office
536-5475

The FrameWorks

Bldg. 1154, 536-2120

Administrative Professionals’ Day is April 24. The FrameWorks has candy filled mugs, laser engraved paperweights, gift baskets and more. Balloon bouquets can be purchased for \$1 per latex balloon. A limited number of floral arrangements in bud vases are also available. Call for more details.

Brooks Club

Bldg. 204, 536-3782

Gourmet Night is back by popular demand. Make your reservations now and mark May 17 on your calendar.

The dining experience begins at 6 p.m. that evening and takes guests through 10 sumptuous courses. The menu consists of assorted canapés, confetti vegetable consommé, shrimp almonidine en papillote, pineapple burgundy sorbet, tournedos bearnaise, braised lettuce, baked berny potatoes, fresh spring fruit salad with honey lime vinaigrette dressing and ends with baked Alaska. Various wines will accompany the meal. Reservations are limited to the first 40 people to sign-up so be sure to stop by soon.

Have you visited the Boar’s Head Pub lately? They have added several new items to the menu, including ceaser or chicken ceaser salad, and Billie’s Burger.

Stop by and pick up an order of Grab “N” Go Chicken on the way home. Call 536-3782 Tuesday - Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. and place your order. Each chicken order is served with appropriate amounts of mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable of the day, rolls and butter. There is an additional charge for all white meat. Allow 45 minutes for meals to be prepared.

Youth Center

Bldg. 470, 536-2515

The Brooks Youth Sports Booster Club hosts a golf tournament May 31. Check-in time is 12:30 p.m. with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. The format is Florida Scramble and is limited to 16 teams (18 Holes), four golfers per team. Mulligans are sold for \$2 each or three for \$5 with a limit of three per person. Prizes will be awarded for the longest drive and closest to the pin.

Registration fee is \$25 per person and includes green and cart fees. To register contact Larry Flores at 536-8130 or sign up at the Golf Course.

Summer Day Camp

Take advantage of the full-day Summer Camp 2002 Program from May 28 through Aug. 2. Summer Day Camp hours are 6:45 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Registration is open to all Brooks active duty military personnel today. Registration for active duty, Department of Defense civilians, retired military, reservists on active duty and contractors begins April 22 and will continue until all spaces are filled. Children will be placed on a waiting list after all slots are filled and offered weeks as they become available.

Parents are required to reserve and pay for weeks they need and must submit cancellations in writing in advance so the slots may be offered to others. Reservations may be submitted by email, fax or in person.

Call the center for information.

Golf Course

Bldg. 821, 536-2636

Take advantage of the May Special in the Pro Shop. Save 10-20 percent off selected golf shoes.

The May Snack Bar Special is a tuna sandwich for \$2.75. Try one of many other sandwiches offered daily.

Watch for details on Services Farewell Golf Tournament for Col. Terry Nelson. The tournament is scheduled for June 21 at noon. Registration begins at 11 a.m. in the clubhouse.

Outdoor Recreation

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Equipment Check-Out is now open Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Vehicle storage

Service’s vehicle storage lots are being refurbished. If you have a vehicle in either Lot 1 or Lot 2 contact Lydia Navarrette, NAF Office, Bldg. 705, or call 536-5328 to update your records. Overdue rental fees can be paid at the NAF office.

Fitness Center

Bldg. 940, 536-2188

Squadron Challenge Day is May 17. Contact your squadron sports representative for more details.

The Fitness Center offers aerobics classes:

Monday	11:30 a.m. - Step
Monday	5 p.m. -Low impact
Wednesday	11:30a.m. - Kickboxing
Wednesday	5 p.m. - Step
Friday	11:30 a.m.-High impact
Friday	5 p.m. -Circuit training

Student Activity Center

Bldg. 722, 536-2383

Introducing first-run movies Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Fridays at 8 p.m. Students, E-3 & below, may use the center Tuesday through Thursday from 5 to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 5 p.m. to midnight. We have a wide screen TV, VCR, dance floor, games and much more. Stop by and check out the center.



Garcia

**FULL NAME:**

Andrea Funari Garcia

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:

Management assistant and
Innovative Development through
Employee Awareness Analyst,
Manpower and Organization Office

WHAT IS MY JOB?:

I run the IDEA Program, assist the
Manpower and Organization Office and
provide support to Human Resources.

BIRTHDAY:

Jan. 4, 1969

HOMETOWN:

San Antonio

FAMILY STATUS:

Married for 13 years with two
daughters and one stepson.

NICKNAME I CALL MYSELF:

I don't but my family does, it's bird lady.

MOTTO:

Do unto others as you would have
them do unto you, because God is
always watching.

INSPIRATIONS:

God, my mother and mother-in-law

HOBBIES:

Gardening, reading, bicycling, fishing
and learning

PET PEEVE:

Employees who pass the buck.

I JOINED CIVIL SERVICE BECAUSE:

it was the best opportunity for me, the
timing was right, and I loved my job in
personnel.

FIVE-YEAR GOAL:

To get promoted and acquire more
manpower knowledge and training.

ULTIMATE GOAL:

To complete my bachelor's degree in
business.

IF I WON THE LOTTERY, I'D:

build a house for my mother on
several acres of land. Second, I would
take a leave of absence from work to
travel and complete my education.

FAVORITE MUSIC:

Anything I can dance to, but not too
much country.

MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT IS:

fulfilling the dreams I wrote down
in my senior year book.

MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:

is my girls and my family.

Brooks Personality PROFILE

By Rita Boland

Discovery Staff Writer

You're the most important person in the world. Or at least that's how you would feel if you were talking with Andrea Garcia.

Garcia looks straight at a person with her large, kind brown eyes while she speaks. Her eyes hold no trace of judgment, making her audience feel important and confident. Her melodious voice floats to the ear, giving the listener a feeling of relaxation and warmth as she tells stories and answers questions. Her animated demeanor makes her lively and interesting.

"I like people," Garcia said. "I like to talk to them. I like to help them. Growing up in personnel, I call it growing up, you learn that service is your number one priority."

Garcia "grew up" in personnel because she started in that division at Brooks when she was 17 years old as part of a program at her high school.

"I loved my job in personnel," she said.

Garcia is the second of five children. While her family was never poor, each of the kids had to do their part.

"We had to help our mom raise us," Garcia said. "My mom said I didn't have to go to work, but I did it, if I wanted stuff. I bought my senior ring and my graduation outfit. I paid for my cap and gown. Whatever I made, some of it went to my mom (to help support the family); that was a valuable lesson."

Garcia has learned many lessons in her life, including there is always something to do.

"When I moved to classification, we had these binders that had to be kept up," Garcia said. "My boss (Brandt Taylor) said there should always be work. We should always have something to do. That's true. There's always something to do. Maybe not something you want to do."

All of Garcia's lessons haven't come from outside sources. Self-described as timid, Garcia is actually confident, courageous and tenacious.

"Most of the time, if I put my mind to it, I can do it," Garcia said. "I love computers and I believe there is not a program out there, if given the chance, I couldn't learn myself."

Garcia learned the Zenith 248 when she worked in classification and taught it to her co-workers.

"No one wanted to learn it," Garcia said. "I learned that computer inside out."

Garcia's mother instilled independence and self-assurance in all her children.

"We're all really headstrong," Garcia said. "My mother taught us to rely on ourselves. I owe a lot to my mother. She's really fantastic."

The lessons were well learned.

When Garcia was in high school and college she drove a '71 Dodge Challenger. The linkage (the part that controls the gearshift) would often fall out. Once it fell out while Garcia was at work so she waited until everyone had gone home and then she climbed under the car, in her skirt, and made the repairs.

"I was so embarrassed," Garcia said. "I didn't like guys coming up to me and asking if I needed help. I was raised to be self-sufficient."

Her mother also raised her to love and care for her family.

"My family is the most important thing to me," Garcia said.

Garcia, who has two daughters and one stepson, gets together every spring break with her whole family. They go to Port Aransas and rent condos. Between her immediate family and her siblings' families, 26 people attend these family vacations.

"I don't really have time for friends," Garcia said, laughing. "My family pulls me in all directions."

Garcia has more in mind with these family get-togethers than just fun.

"We've been doing this for seven or eight years," she said. "If we do this as a family thing my kids won't go do the party thing. They'll know this is a family thing and they won't break that tradition."

Garcia does like to have a good time though, and misses some of the fun she had with her family when she was younger.

"One time we went camping, I must have been around 5 or 6, my youngest sister was still in diapers," Garcia said. "My mom piled us all into the car. We slept wherever we could because we didn't have a tent; on the tables, on top or back of the car. It was fun and we always had plenty of food. Mom, being self sufficient, could start a fire, light a lantern, almost anything. My mom always did stuff like that. She would just pick up and go."

Garcia's family calls her the bird lady, a nickname she received when she was young, very thin and loved to eat corn. She even ate it straight out of the can.

"I was a twig," Garcia said. "That's



Photos by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson

the only way I can describe it. My brother gave me that nickname. It's now an affectionate term, he uses."

Though family is the most important thing to Garcia, work isn't too far behind.

"My life revolves around my daughters, but I really love my job," she said.

Garcia has been working at Brooks for 15 years. She's worked for military and civilian bosses.

"I love working with officers," Garcia said. "The military is really great to work with. They come from all over. I love to listen to their stories. I have a greater appreciation for what (the military) does for us. I didn't know what they did when I started working. I do now. If it weren't for them, we wouldn't have the luxuries we have."

Garcia is an appreciative person, grateful for what she has and what people have done for her.

"Since Sept. 11, everyone's gotten a new look at life. It strengthens my faith in God and the military more than ever."

With all the credit Garcia gives to others, she also deserves some herself. When she was a senior in high school she listed her goals as being married, having two children, owning her own home and having a successful career. She has accomplished them all, but she's not done yet.

"I do have ambitions still," Garcia said. "Growing up we always rented. I want to get my mom a house, and finish college."

Lofty goals, but there's nothing this girl can't do.

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil



‘Our Miss Brooks’ finally returns to Hangar 9 after 33-year hiatus

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

When Brenda Nickels pressed her hand back into her palm print she left in wet cement at Hangar 9 more than three decades ago, she began to relive one of the happiest times in her life as the reigning Miss Brooks of 1969.

Fittingly, she recently returned to the site of this year’s Brooks Fiesta Reception where she had participated in an historic ceremony that marked the beginning of Hangar 9’s transformation into a venue for special celebrations.

“We dedicated the start of the restoration,” Nickels said of the ceremony on Oct. 16, 1969 that kicked off the massive renovation of America’s last World War I-era wooden aircraft hanger.

Among the dignitaries who also placed their palm prints in wet cement were Lone Star Brewery president Harry Jersig and aviation pioneer Col. Carl Crane whose leadership helped raise \$100,000 for the restoration that was completed in June 1970.

Her hand prints, along with those of former Bexar County judge Blair Reeves, Brooks commander Col. Irvin Keefer and School of Aviation Medicine scientist Dr. Hubertus



Brenda Nickels, Miss Brooks Air Force Base 1969, on the Fiesta float at Brooks Field. The theme of the float was ‘From Hangar 9 to the moon.’

Strughold, are located near the east hangar doors close to a square metal floor plate that marks a buried time capsule.

“I teased the seniors about them trying to find my hand prints in concrete on the hangar floor,” Nickels said of the group or retirees she escorted to Hangar 9 April 11.

As activity director for the National Benevolent Associ-

ation’s Patriot Heights Retirement Center, Nickels organized the Brooks field trip because many of the seniors are veterans.

Among those in the group was Virginia Rudd who served at Brooks in 1946-47 as a clerk typist for the 10th Air Force headquarters that had relocated here.

“I’ve been wanting to come back here for a long time. This is the first time I’ve been back,” said Nickels, who is daughter of retired Lt. Col. Albert Nickels, former director and current volunteer for the Brooks Retiree Activity Office. Nickels, a World War II Army Air Corp pilot, was stationed at Brooks as director of procurement when his then 18-year-old daughter became Miss Brooks.

The Winston Churchill High School graduate represented the Aerospace Medical Division in the Miss Brooks contest that also included three USAFSAM and two Air Base Group candidates. She was crowned March 5, 1969, in Building 180’s auditorium by Maj. Gen. Charles Roadman, AMD commander who would later become Air Force Surgeon General.

The Hangar 9 restoration dedication was one of Nickels’ last official functions as Miss Brooks. Her Fiesta experiences are among some of the greatest moments in her life. “It was absolutely fabulous. I’ve never been pampered as much in my life. My chauffeur would pick me up every day at my parent’s house near Churchill and bring me to the



A close-up of Miss Brooks on the float as it toured the base in 1969.

Brooks beauty shop to have my hair done,” she recalls.

Unlike today where Fiesta royalty features dozens of representatives, Nickels was one of only six military queens. Her Fiesta highlights include riding on the Brooks float in the Battle of Flowers and Flambeau parades. Back then, the elaborately decorated and engineered Brooks floats designed by USAFSAM artist Edwin Wesp, would first tour the base before the general public was allowed to see them.

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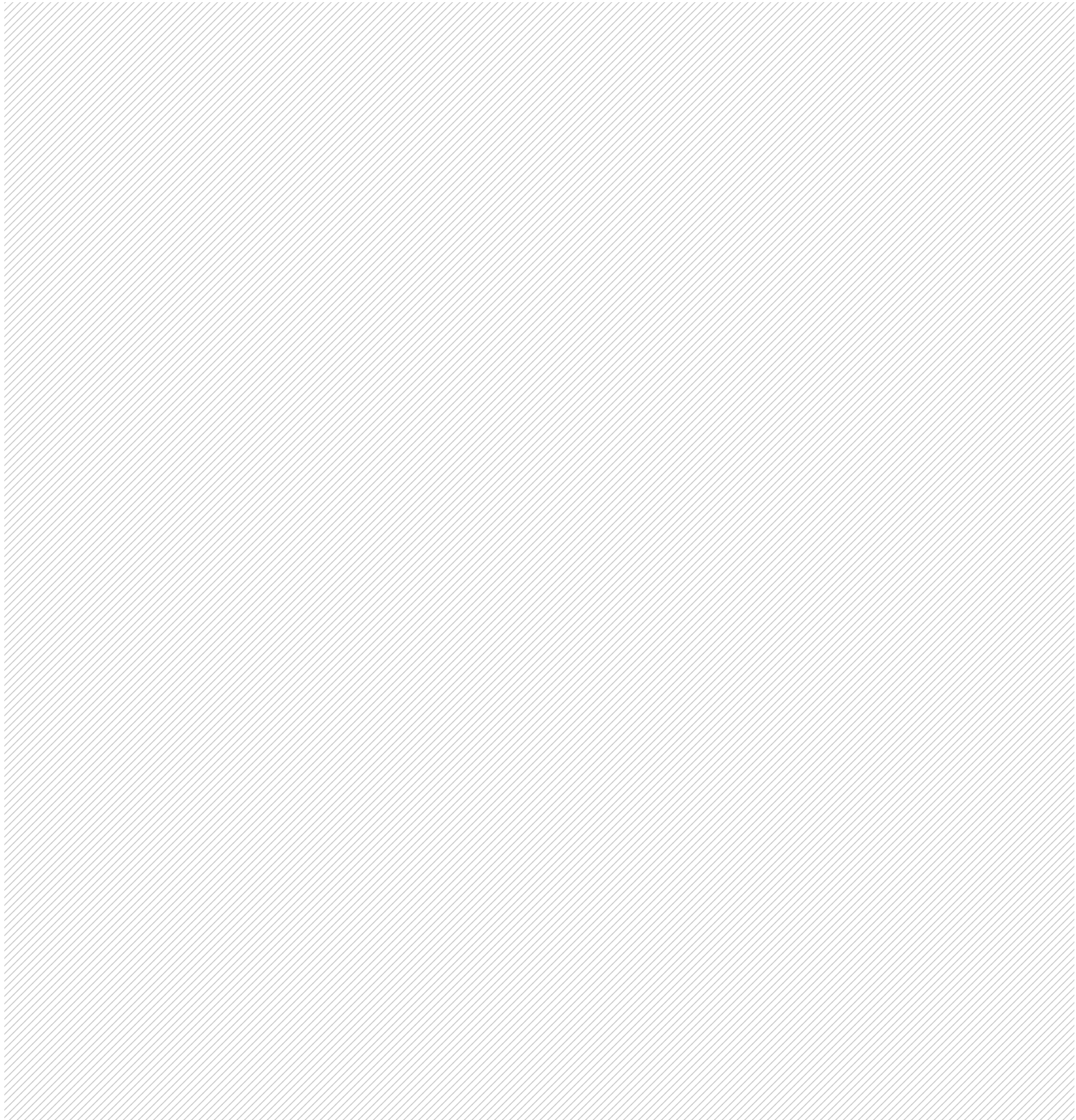


Thirty-three years ago, Nickels left her mark on the Hangar 9 floor.



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Nickels’ hand fits perfectly into the palm print she left in the floor at Hangar 9 in 1969.





Earth Day a time of dedication for many at Brooks

Events honor tradition

By Rita Boland

Discovery Staff Writer

Despite being busy with Fiesta activities next week, personnel at Brooks are taking time out to participate in Earth Week 2002.

Earth Week is celebrated from April 21-28 this year. Monday is Arbor Day, a day set aside for the celebration of trees. April 22 is also known as Earth Day.

This year marks the 32nd anniversary of Earth Day. The slogan of the event for Brooks is "Earth is a Wonderful Place, Preserve It." In keeping with that spirit numerous activities are planned on base throughout the week.

The official Arbor Day Ceremony is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Monday. Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, with the help of a local forester, will plant a Red Oak tree at Bldg. 775.

The 311th Medical Squadron started early with an Earth Day presentation at Kate Schenck Elementary School April 18, but many organizations will start the week off with their planned activities.

The 311th Communication Squadron is dedicating an Oak Tree in a ceremony to honor Eddie Guerin, who recently passed away. Guerin was an Air Force retiree and civil service employee for 14 years. The Brooks Honor Guard will perform a full flag ceremony and flag presentation at 9 a.m. Monday at Bldg. 619.

Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence employees are taking part in a cleanup drive around the headquarters building and the nearby area from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Monday. AFCEE also hosts the Brown Bag Seminar Series from noon to 1:40 p.m. April 24-26 in Rm. 154. The series features presentations on "Ecofootprints", the migratory Purple Martin, wildscaping, and xeriscaping, respectively. Thursday and Friday's presentations include nature walks.

The Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis plans Spring grounds clean-up, flower planting at all three AFIERA buildings, a tree planting at Bldg. 140, and environmental awareness poster displays at the entrance of their buildings.

AFIERA also plans to dedicate a tree in honor of the late Dr. Dave Erwin, former director. The tree was planted two years ago at the stand-up of AFIERA. The ceremony is scheduled for 8 a.m. April 24.

The Air Force Research Laboratory and the 311th HSW Public Affairs Office will also plant trees.

Other Earth Day recognitions include the 311th HSW Plans and Programs Office marquees at the front gate and a 5k run/walk hosted by Services at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the base gym. The first 100 finalists will receive t-shirts. Environmental Management will be at the event to distribute community information about recycling and Earth Day. Contact Roy Conatzer at 536-2188 for more details.



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Workcrew members Eli Rush and Shelia Klein re-landscape the Sidney Brooks Memorial Garden as part of the Brooks Heritage Foundation Earth Day activities. The garden had not been refurbished since the Memorial's inception in 1987.

The facts about ground-level ozone

Giang Pham

311th HSW Air Quality Manager

Ground level ozone is the most widely spread air quality problem in the U.S. It's a volatile organic compound formed when natural elements combine with emissions from vehicles, industrial plants and other pollutants. According to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, San Antonio, Austin and Corpus Christi have ozone concentrations closed to exceeding the national standard.

High concentrations of ground-level ozone can cause shortness of breath, respiratory irritation, headaches and nausea. People who spend significant periods of time exercising or working outdoors may be at risk for respiratory

problems. Children who spend more time playing outdoors in the summer and breathing more air while their lungs are still developing are especially vulnerable to the harmful effects of ozone.

The following tips may help reduce air pollution.

- Avoid rush-hour traffic.
- Car pool to lunch and meetings.
- Postpone refueling until after 6 p.m.
- Don't top off tank when refueling.
- Keep vehicle properly tuned to keep exhaust levels low.
- Postpone using gas engines such as lawnmowers until after 6 p.m.
- Combine errands into one trip.
- Alternate work schedule, if possible.

For more information on air pollution, visit the TNRCC website at: www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/air.

Water conservation saves money and the environment

By Stephen Whately

Brooks Water Program Manager

Water conservation is an important part of preserving the environment. There are many ways a homeowner can contribute to water conservation.

Some water conservation methods are fairly simple and can be easily adapted for use at your residence.

One way a homeowner can participate in water conservation is through rainwater harvesting. Rainwater harvesting is an ancient method used by many different cultures.

Rainwater harvesting is the "capture, diversion, and storage of rainwater for irrigation and in some cases for use as a potable water supply."

Some benefits of rainwater harvesting are:

- * Savings on utility bills
- * Decreasing strain on water supply
- * Increasing independence & water security

- * Improving plant growth
- * Greater sensitivity to, and connection with natural cycles

Usually rainwater is collected from the roof of a residence and stored in barrels, cisterns, or storage tanks. The harvesting system can be as simple as a barrel at the base of a downspout, or as complex as a system of covered storage tanks, pumps, and even water treatment.

The simplest and least expensive method for a residence is the use of rain barrels. Barrels are placed under a downspout so that rain automatically fills the barrel. Systems of two or more barrels can be linked together so that water is collected from a single downspout.

More information on water conservation through rainwater harvesting with barrels is available at: www.cityofbremerton.com, or by contacting the Environmental Management Office at 536-6716.

Pollution prevention is everyone's responsibility

By Andrew Riley

Environmental Engineer

A pollution prevention program on Air Force installations is required. Although there are numerous ways to implement P2, there are four strategies that are vital to a successful program at Brooks.

Affirmative procurement is the policy and practice of purchasing products made with recycled materials. The most familiar of these items is paper, but there are 53 other categories of products made with recycled materials that are available. Purchasers must give preferential treatment to recycled-content products unless they can document valid technical or financial reasons why the products are unacceptable.

Recycling at Brooks means separating newspaper, office paper, magazines, cardboard, glass, and aluminum and tin cans from the normal trash. Use the blue two-sort trash bins, the cardboard recycling dumpster and the community recycling dumpster at the Post Office.

Any refuse co-mingled with recyclable paper automatically causes the whole batch of material to be disposed of as waste, hurting the installations recycling numbers reported to Air Force Materiel Command Headquarters each month. It also hurts the environment since less material gets recycled.

Remember, it's a violation of Air Force policy to leave dumpsters open after use.

Hazardous Material Management ensures that all hazardous materials are authorized through the base HAZMART. Employees must use current Material Safety Data Sheets and provide copies to the HAZMART. Also, the Contracting Office and the Environmental Management Office must be notified whenever contracts involve the use of hazardous materials on base.

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission reminds all hazardous material users to re-think, reduce, re-use, and recycle. This thought process also applies to non-hazardous material.

Finally, used oil management, as the term is used in this instance, applies to generators of used motor oil on Brooks.

It is illegal to dump used oil on land or into sewers or waterways. According to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, one quart of used motor oil will contaminate 250,000 gallons of water.

Used motor oil can be turned in to the AAFES Service Station, to some stations off base, or disposed of through the City of San Antonio's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program.

Implementing these four pollution prevention strategies shows the surrounding community that Brooks is an active partner in environmental protection.

For more information about the Brooks P2 Program, contact Mr. Andrew Riley at 536-6719, or by email at: Andrew.Riley@brooks.af.mil.

USAFSAM volleyball squad surprises foes, wins championship

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

In sports, sometimes ‘dark horse’ teams illuminate the field. The glare from the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine intramural volleyball squad’s 2002 league championship performance blinded, or perhaps ‘blind-sided,’ their opposition and those who didn’t even pick USAFSAM to make the playoffs.

USAFSAM, led by coach Steve Linnemeyer, heads into the base intramural volleyball championship tourney as the number one seed after posting a 7-1 regular season record. The tournament begins April 23 at the fitness center gym with games at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. and concludes April 25 with the 6 p.m. title match.

Only four of nine teams advanced to the championship event. The only other post-season surprise is the play-off absence of defending base champion 311th Security Forces Squadron.

Contenders who advanced include runner-up Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis, the 68th Information Operations Squadron and a new team called Pool Players coached by women’s varsity volleyball coach and men’s varsity team player Jose Murillo.

“They’re excited about winning. They’ve been real receptive to learning how to play the game,” said USAFSAM’s first-year coach and veteran player Linnemeyer about his squad of mostly rookies.

“We actually have pretty good teams every year, but when we get to the play-offs we have problems.” The team won its first league title on the strength of young, enthusiastic players, most of whom are former beach volleyball players. “We have a lot of students on the team,” Linnemeyer said. The key to their success, he said, is their consistency. Some key players include hitters Johnny Tran and Corey Ringhisen, setter and assistant coach Christina Garton and back row specialist Richard Bert. Linnemeyer notes that besides himself the only other veterans are John Garland and Lorenzo MacFarland, the latter a Brooks varsity team player and former women’s varsity volleyball team coach.

Linnemeyer likes his team’s first-round match against Pool Players, who they beat during the regular season. USAFSAM’s only season loss came against the 68 IOS, a team that gave league runner-up AFIERA problems. AFIERA plays the 68th IOS in the tourney’s opening round.

“We did pretty good. Our (team) strength is our passing,” said AFIERA player-coach Cesar Abinsay. While one of AFIERA’s two season losses was against USAFSAM, the coach said their toughest game was against the 68th IOS, last year’s league champ.

Abinsay said key players who contributed to their playoff run were power hitter Bob Walton, setters Blanca Paredes and Patricia Bradley, and his assistant coach and hitter David Villarreal.

Intramural golf season in ‘full swing’

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

The Brooks intramural golf season is in full swing as defending base champion Services picked up where they left off last fall on top of the leader board after the first week.

“We won our first two matches against HSW/FM,” said Services team captain Jose Valadez whose squad is off to a fast start in their attempt to repeat as base champs.

Services returns many veterans from last year’s championship team including Bob Hager, Manny Garcia and Rick Cone.

“It’s a good format. The players like it,” Valadez said of the match play, Florida Scramble format that is being used for the third consecutive year.

Under this system, no handicaps are used. Teams are composed of four members. Each team is further divided into twosomes who earn one point per match won. Services earned two points in the season’s opening week when both their twosomes defeated HSW/FM in separate matches.

The top four teams with the best regular season records advance to the base championship tournament scheduled for late June.

Services is defending its base title against ten teams including perennial powerhouse Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence; the defending 2001 league intramural champion Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk

Analysis; Air Force Research Laboratory, 311th Security Forces Squadron, 311th Human Systems Wing Contracting Office, HSW/FM, 311th Human Systems Program Office, 2001 base champion runner-up 311th Communications Squadron, 68th Information Operations Squadron and perennial contender U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine.

AFCEE, which won the league championship in 1999 and 2000 but failed to make the playoffs last year, will be trying to re-establish itself as a legitimate contender. AFCEE team captain Jim Wilde ascribes player attrition to their failure to reach the 2001 playoffs.

“We lost some stalwart players through retirement, PCSes and TDYs,” Wilde said about some of the team’s former stars. No longer with the team are star players Horace Hopper, Jim Williams, Pat Fink, William Moak and E.G. Willard, the latter considered by Wilde to be “one of the best golfers the base has ever had.”

AFCEE, however, fields some key veterans from a 13-member player roster. Among them are team co-captains Bill Bushman and Dave Holguin.

“We won our first match of the season,” Wilde said of he and teammate Paul Zutto’s victory. Unfortunately, the Bushman-Holguin twosome lost their match against USAFSAM’s other twosome.

Intramural golf matches are held every Wednesday afternoon through June 12.